

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 PM-03 INR-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 SP-02 PRS-01 L-01 EB-03 NSC-05 NSCE-00 RSC-01

/048 W

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R 090843Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4956

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

CINCUSNAVEUR

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT LOUIS 0016

LIMDIS

CINCUSNAVEUR AND CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PFOR SE UK OAU XO MARR MP

SUBJECT: SEYCHELLES INDEPENDENCE AND BIOT

REF: NAIROBI 0152

1. I WOULD ASSUME EMBASSY NAIROBI IS QUITE RIGHT THAT QUESTION OF RESTORATION OF THREE FORMER SEYCHELLES ISLAND GROUPS DOES NOT DIRECTLY IMPINGE ON US INTERESTS IN PRESENT SITUATION.

2. I DOUBT THAT CONSIDERATION OF THIS QUESTION IN INTERNATIONAL FORA WOULD PER SE ENCOURAGE MAURITIUS ACTUALLY TO SEEK RETURN OF DIEGO GARCIA -- NOT BECAUSE GOM IS PASSIVE ABOUT DIEGO, FAR FROM IT, BUT BECAUSE THERE IS NO RELIABLE EVIDENCE SO FAR THAT RAMGOOLAM REALLY INTENDS TO SEEK RETURN OF DIEGO. MORE IMPORTANT HOWEVER IS FACT THAT RAMGOOLAM AND MOST MAURITIAN POLITICANS  
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ARE OPPOSED TO OUR DIEGO EXPANSION AND ARE STRONGLY MOTIVATED

TO COLLABORATE WITH ANY AND ALL LIKE-MINDED INDIAN OCEAN COUNTRIES  
TO TRY TO FORECLOSE ANY UPGRADING OF FOREIGN MILITARY FACILITIES  
IN AREA AND ESPECIALLY ESTABLISHMENT OF ANY ADDITIONAL FOREIGN  
MILITARY BASES IN INDIAN OCEAN.

3. IT IS MY GUESS THAT RAMGOOLAM WILL CONTINUE TO STRIVE FOR  
CLOSE AND EVEN DOMINATING INFLUENCE IN SEYCHELLES WHEN IT BECOMES  
INDEPENDENT, PREFERS MANCHAM TO SPUP, BUT WOULD LIKE TO SEE MANCHAM  
ADOPT SPUP POSITION ON RESTORATION OF ALDABRA, DESROCHES AND  
FARQUHAR. I SURMISE RAMGOOLAM'S REASONS ARE AT LEAST TWOFOLD:  
(A) HE IS SUSPICIOUS THAT UK, IF IT HOLDS ON TO THOSE ISLANDS,  
MAY EVENTUALLY BE TEMPTED TO CONVERT ONE OR MORE INTO ANOTHER  
DIEGO, (B) HE WOULD PREFER TO SEE AN INDEPENDENT SEYCHELLES'  
GEOGRAPHIC REACH FOCUSSED MORE WESTWARD THAN SOUTHWARD, BECAUSE  
HE, FOR ECONOMIC REASONS, IS ANXIOUS TO PUSH HIS ARCHIPELAGIC  
CONCEPT AS FAR NORTH AS POSSIBLE, ESPECIALLY WHEN HOPES HERE  
ARE RAPIDLY RISING THAT TEXACO WILL MAKE MAJOR OIL STRIKE IN  
BOTH NAZARETH AND SAYA DE MALHA BANKS. THUS IT IS NOT TOO SURPRISING  
THAT RAMGOOLAM NOT LONG AGO SAID TO ME "IF YOU CAN PERSUADE THE  
BRITISH TO GIVE ALDABRA, DESROCHES AND FARQUHAR TO THE SEYCHELLES,  
I WILL KISS YOUR FEET".  
MANHARD

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INDEPENDENCE, MILITARY BASES, DIEGO GARCIA  
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**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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